



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Committee Bill No. 5313

LCO No. 4280

* _____HB05313PS____031705_____*

Referred to Committee on Public Safety and Security

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT EXPANDING THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS OF POLICE OFFICERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 7-294d of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2005*):

4 (a) The Police Officer Standards and Training Council shall have the
5 following powers:

6 (1) To develop and periodically update and revise a comprehensive
7 municipal police training plan;

8 (2) To approve, or revoke the approval of, any police training school
9 and to issue certification to such schools and to revoke such
10 certification;

11 (3) To set the minimum courses of study and attendance required
12 and the equipment and facilities to be required of approved police
13 training schools;

14 (4) To set the minimum qualifications for law enforcement
15 instructors and to issue appropriate certification to such instructors;

16 (5) To require that all probationary candidates receive the hours of
17 basic training deemed necessary before being eligible for certification,
18 such basic training to be completed within one year following the
19 appointment as a probationary candidate, unless the candidate is
20 granted additional time to complete such basic training by the council;

21 (6) To require the registration of probationary candidates with the
22 academy within ten days of hiring for the purpose of scheduling
23 training;

24 (7) To issue appropriate certification to police officers who have
25 satisfactorily completed minimum basic training programs;

26 (8) To require that each police officer satisfactorily complete at least
27 forty hours of certified review training every three years in order to
28 maintain certification, unless the officer is granted additional time not
29 to exceed one year to complete such training by the council;

30 (9) To renew the certification of those police officers who have
31 satisfactorily completed review training programs;

32 (10) To establish uniform minimum educational and training
33 standards for employment as a police officer in full-time positions,
34 temporary or probationary positions and part-time or voluntary
35 positions, provided any police officer in a full-time position shall hold
36 an associate's degree from an institution of higher education accredited
37 by the Board of Governors of Higher Education or regionally
38 accredited;

39 (11) To visit and inspect police basic training schools and to inspect
40 each school at least once each year;

41 (12) To consult with and cooperate with universities, colleges and
42 institutes for the development of specialized courses of study for

43 police officers in police science and police administration;

44 (13) To consult with and cooperate with departments and agencies
45 of this state and other states and the federal government concerned
46 with police training;

47 (14) To employ an executive director and any other personnel that
48 may be necessary in the performance of its functions;

49 (15) To perform any other acts that may be necessary and
50 appropriate to carry out the functions of the council as set forth in
51 sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive;

52 (16) To accept contributions, grants, gifts, donations, services or
53 other financial assistance from any governmental unit, public agency
54 or the private sector;

55 (17) To conduct any inspection and evaluation that may be
56 necessary to determine if a law enforcement unit is complying with the
57 provisions of this section;

58 (18) At the request and expense of any law enforcement unit, to
59 conduct general or specific management surveys;

60 (19) To develop objective and uniform criteria for granting any
61 waiver of regulations or procedures established by the council;

62 (20) To recruit, select and appoint candidates to the position of
63 probationary candidate, as defined in section 7-294a, and provide
64 recruit training for candidates of the Connecticut Police Corps
65 program in accordance with the Police Corps Act, 42 USC 14091 et
66 seq., as amended from time to time;

67 (21) To develop, adopt and revise, as necessary, comprehensive
68 accreditation standards for the administration and management of law
69 enforcement units, to grant accreditation to those law enforcement
70 units that demonstrate their compliance with such standards and, at

71 the request and expense of any law enforcement unit, to conduct such
 72 surveys as may be necessary to determine such unit's compliance with
 73 such standards;

74 (22) To appoint any council training instructor, or such other person
 75 as determined by the council, to act as a special police officer
 76 throughout the state as such instructor or other person's official duties
 77 may require, provided any such instructor or other person so
 78 appointed shall be a certified police officer. Each such special police
 79 officer shall be sworn and may arrest and present before a competent
 80 authority any person for any offense committed within the officer's
 81 precinct.

82 Sec. 2. Section 29-3a of the general statutes is repealed and the
 83 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

84 After graduation from the State Police Training Academy, and before
 85 becoming a sworn member of the Division of State Police within the
 86 Department of Public Safety, all state police trainees shall have
 87 received a high school diploma or an equivalent approved by the state
 88 Department of Education and shall hold an associate's degree from an
 89 institution of higher education accredited by the Board of Governors of
 90 Higher Education or regionally accredited. Nothing in this section
 91 shall prohibit prospective state police applicants from being admitted
 92 to the State Police Training Academy without having received either
 93 the high school diploma or equivalent and the associate's degree.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2005	7-294d(a)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2005	29-3a

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Sec. 2	October 1, 2005	29-3a

PS *Joint Favorable*